



ROBERT J. CLEMENTS
Chairman

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

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BOARD OF FINANCE

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS JOINT MEETING TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2010 MINUTES

RICHARD J. CLEARY
MARK A. JOYSE
BARRY C. PINTO
MICHAEL D. VARNEY
JOSEPH E. WEHR

Board of Finance

Members Present: R. Clements-Chairman, R. Cleary, M. Joyse, B. Pinto, M. Varney, and J. Wehr

Board of Selectmen

Members Present: M. Blanchette-First Selectman, J. Prichard, L. Burstein, R. Stomberg, A. Miller and J. Turner

Others Present: S. Cullinan-Supt of Schools, P Williams-Bldg. Official, G. Fetko-Public Works Dir, P. Hany-Pres EVAC, D. Davis-Emergency Mgmt Director, D. Keune-Chairman BOE,

Board of Finance Chairman Robert Clements called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM.

Citizen's Forum - None

Presentation of Capital Improvements Budget for FY 2010-11 by First Selectman.

First Selectman, Maurice Blanchette presented the capital improvements budget approved by the Board of Selectmen on January 25, 2010. He reviewed the process of the capital improvements subcommittee and how they came to this point in the process.

Road Construction

Road Overlay \$569,445; \$70,000 was cut from the original request. Chipsealing of \$106,105 is reimbursable through LOCIP. Unimproved Road Improvements \$25,000; \$125,000 was cut from the original request. Mr. Clements asked Mr. Fetko what he would have done with the \$150,000 and he was told that Wheelock Rd would be improved and paved. Some of the gravel work or drainage can be done with the \$25,000.

Site Acquisition

The Capital Improvements Subcommittee did not recommend funding any projects under this category.

Building Construction

One project under this category was recommended for funding by the subcommittee. The Old Crystal Lake Schoolhouse Renovation in the amount of \$95,000. The Board of Selectmen would like to keep this project moving forward. There will be two large meeting rooms.

The subcommittee did not fund the Annex Fireproof Vault. They will be working on the existing vault at the Town Hall to accommodate additional files. They felt it could be funded next year and that there may be a dire need in the next few years.

Miscellaneous

The Revaluation has to be funded for \$150,000, this is state mandated. The Stafford Road Sewer Extension is being brought forward in the amount of \$50,000. This amount will accommodate the engineering portion of the project. Mr. Clements asked that if the engineering is done in advance will it be obsolete when the project is ready for construction. The Public Works Director told him that the Town Engineer assured him that the engineering would still be valid.

Peter Williams, WPCA Administrator, presented the project which will be located at the intersection of Routes 140/30 and service 10 properties which include the commercial area from the Ellington Depot and the area of the Crystal Lake Firehouse. The septic systems are under suspicion in that area. This project benefits the planned commercial area as well as the lake. The entire project will cost \$250,000. The WPCA has approved \$125,000 of the cost from their funds. The cost to the town will be \$125,000. The benefit assessments will help to offset the WPCA costs.

Mr. Cleary asked how the properties are assessed. Mr. Williams stated that they can pay over 20 years at 5% interest. The users are charged a user fee once they are hooked into the system. Once the engineering and design is completed, if there is a failure, they can work relatively quickly to remedy the situation.

Mr. Wehr stated that the \$75,000 that the subcommittee reduced this item by may be worth funding to eliminate the risk. Mr. Clements agreed and stated that this may be a priority if there are any funds available to add back into the budget.

The Townwide Sidewalk item is being funded for \$30,000 from the town's sidewalk fund. The subcommittee did not fund the Windermere School Heating Control Replacement this year.

Equipment Purchases

The subcommittee chose not to fund the DPW Pickup truck replacement, the EVFD Service/Command Vehicle, the Computer Disaster Recovery Plan, and the Senior Citizens Mini Van. The Senior Center has received a grant to purchase a new bus and they received a donation of a car this year so they have pulled this request from the budget. The items the subcommittee brought forward to fund are the Public Works Loader Replacement for \$147,960. This is \$20,000 less than requested so there will be accessories not purchased with the equipment. A skid steer loader for \$46,300 will be purchased from the DPW Maintenance Fund which is a fund that developers contribute to for the maintenance of the detention basins. This piece of equipment will be used for that maintenance. The EVFD hydraulic rescue tools will be funded at

\$80,000 for two sets of tools. Mr. Varney told the board that the CL Fire Dept had purchased a set of these tools with the truck they just purchased.

EVAC has two items in the capital budget, \$26,000 for protective response gear and \$26,300 for chest compression system, both items to be funded from their charging fund. Mr. Hany agreed. A BOE Special Ed van for \$24,000 is to be funded. The BOE System Wide Technology remains for \$262,461. This will be funded through a 4 year lease. Mr. Clements asked Supt. Cullinan what he thought of that program. Mr. Cullinan stated that it was working well for them. The new computers will be located at Center and High School. The new lease payments will actually be less than the prior lease that will be coming off the budget.

Mr. Wehr asked Mr. Cullinan if the Board of Education had an offsite backup system and he indicated that they had one. The Disaster Recovery Plan proposed for this budget for the Town at \$45,000 consists of an offsite server that the Board of Selectmen felt they could take the risk and not fund in this budget year.

The grand total to be funded less grants, reimbursables and leases is \$1,141,405 which is higher than the guideline set by the Board of Finance.

Mr. Wehr asked if the \$95,000 for the Old Crystal Lake Schoolhouse includes the site work and the parking lot. Mr. Fetko told him that it did and that the DPW would do the excavation and site work. The paving would be done by a contractor. Mr. Clements agreed that the people of Crystal Lake need a place to meet.

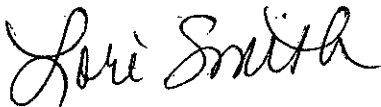
Selectman Miller told the Board that a police cruiser had been requested and that Sgt. Konieczny has agreed to forgo it this year. He has a lap top computer in his operating budget for \$5,200 which he would like to keep.

Mr. Cleary asked Mr. Hany if the hydraulic tools could be funded from the ambulance fee program. Mr. Hany stated that it could not. The Ambulance Corps does not do extraction work, they purchase medical equipment only.

Adjournment

**MOVED (CLEARY) SECONDED (JOYSE) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO
ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:30 PM.**

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lori Smith".

Lori Smith, Recording Secretary